



Tempe Art in Private Development



Riverside Office Plaza

Phase I

1200 W. Rio Salado Parkway

David Brant

Ghost Forest, 2007

Concrete, steel, river stone,
gabion walls and plantings

Artist Website: www.idea-ashtreestudios.blogspot.com

Photo: Robert Moore

Description: The artist has been inspired by both the former raging river edge and the name Riverside to create a memory of what was once along the former river-turned-lake. When the river was an active habitat, mesquite, willow and cottonwood trees, along with reeds and cattails, were fed by the rich soil and abundant waters. This piece is, therefore, a celebration of the river. The rusted steel poles placed at numerous angles and heights pay homage to the trees that once lined the river, while abstracted birds are positioned on similar rusted poles to appear to be in flight toward a new water body: the Town Lake. The river stones that once defined a beach have been gathered and are held in place by a rusted steel grid work in the form of gabion retaining walls which hold the building pads. This garden, in the retaining walls, celebrates the renewal of life on the riverside.

Artist biography: Since the 1970's, Brant has been designing and fabricating sculpture and architectural installation art throughout the western United States. He was formally educated in landscape architecture and trained in a variety of artistic arenas. For 20 years prior to the formation of the company IDEA, Brant held responsible positions with design firms throughout Phoenix and Southern California, and was a founding partner in a major southwest landscape architecture firm. Brant is responsible for all aspects of IDEA's projects, utilizing his award-winning experience in project theming and story rendition through landscape architecture, urban design, architecture, public art and graphic design.

Funding: This project was funded by the individual developer, LGE Design Build, as a requirement of Tempe's Art in Private Development Ordinance.